

Drakes Branch Planning Commission
Drakes Branch Municipal Building
Meeting Minutes
January 29, 2025
7:00 P.M.

Members Presents: Fred Black, Phillip Flippen, Deborah Kennedy, Dorothea Knott, Janice Wells, and Jerris Wells,

Members Absent: Roscoe Eubanks, Jr.

The Zoning Administrator, Eugene Wells was present.

Meeting called to order by Chairperson Deborah Kennedy at 7:08 P.M.

Old Business

Chairperson Deborah Kennedy shared the sad news of the passing of Drakes Branch Mayor, Phil Jackson. A memorial service will be held at Drakes Branch Baptist Church on Saturday, February 1st. Vice President Peery Wells has been serving as Acting Mayor.

The Committee members reviewed minutes from the October meeting. Motion was made by Janice Wells to approve minutes and Fred Black seconded the motion. The motion was carried and approved by the Commission members.

The Veteran's Day Parade was well attended. However, many attendees came to town and didn't realize there was a scheduled event. Advertising was done primarily on Facebook. This was good, but members agreed that other forms of advertisement would be helpful. It was also confirmed that this is not an event planned by the Planning Commission.

Commission members suggested that an events committee would be appropriate to coordinate. Members suggested asking James Gregory, as he has been instrumental in coordinating several town events. The next event that the town is scheduled to host is the 100 Mile Yard Sale the first weekend in July. Philip Flippen suggested placing an advertisement in all water bills.

New Business

Chairperson Kennedy shared the unfortunate news that D's Coffee Delight is closing due to lack of business. Thankfully, Anita's Restaurant is remaining open.

Committee members discussed the possibility of suspension of Federal grant funding with the President's announcement of Federal cutbacks and use of FEMA funds. There is much that must be figured out on how this will impact the town's current plans and process for revitalization, if at all.

Zoning Permit - Approved

Jimmy Moon is requesting to place shipping containers for storage behind his gas station.

Chairperson Kennedy stated that Acting Mayor Peery Wells will be working to find out the status of the Comprehensive Plan for the town. Also, she would like committee members to bring to the next meeting suggestions to help improve the town and how to increase residents' involvement.

Jerris Wells motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 P.M. Motion was seconded by Fred Black., motion passed, meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,


Dorothea Knott, Secretary